

# QUI

Ginger renders it brisk, and corrects its windiness, and juice of corianders whereof a few drops tinge and add a pleasant quickness. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

**QUICKSAND.** *n. f.* [*quick and sand.*] Moving sand; unsoft ground.

What is Edward, but a ruthless sea? *Shakefp.*  
What Clarence, but a quicksand of deceit? *Shakefp.*  
Undergirding the ship, and fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, they strike sail, and so were driven. *Act. xxvii.*  
But when the vessel is on quicksands cast,  
The flowing tide does more the sinking haste. *Dryden.*  
Trajan, by the adoption of Nerva, stems the tide to her relief, and like another Neptune shoves her off the quicksands. *Addison on Ancient Medals.*  
I have marked out several of the shoals and quicksands of life, in order to keep the unwary from running upon them. *Addison.*

**To QUICKSET.** *v. a.* [*quick and set.*] To plant with living plants.

In making or mending, as needeth thy ditch,  
Get set to quickset it, learn cunningly which. *Tusser.*  
A man may ditch and quickset three poles a day, where the ditch is three foot wide and two foot deep. *Mortimer.*

**QUICKSET.** *n. f.* [*quick and set.*] Living plant set to grow.

Plant quicksets and transplant fruit trees towards the de-  
create. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*  
Nine in ten of the quickset hedges are ruined for want of skill. *Swift's Miscellanies.*

**QUICKSET.** *adj.* [*quick and set.*] Having a sharp light.

No body will deem the quickset amongst them to have very enlarged views in ethics. *Locke.*  
No article of religion hath credulity enough for them; and yet these same cautious and quickset gentlemen can swallow down this foolish opinion about percipient atoms. *Bentley.*

**QUICKSIGHTEDNESS.** *n. f.* [*from quicksighted.*] Sharpness of sight.

The ignorance that is in us no more hinders the know-  
ledge that is in others, than the blindness of a mole is an argu-  
ment against the quicksightedness of an eagle. *Locke.*

**QUICKSILVER.** *n. f.* [*quick and silver; argentum vivum, Lat.*] Quicksilver, called mercury by the chymists, is a naturally fluid mineral, and the heaviest of all known bodies next to gold, and is the more heavy and fluid, as it is more pure; its nature is so homogeneous and simple, that it is a question whether gold itself be more so: it penetrates the parts of all the other metals, renders them brittle, and in part dissolves them: it is wholly volatile in the fire, and may be driven up in vapour by a degree of heat very little greater than that of boiling water: it is the least tenacious of all bodies, and every smaller drop may be again divided by the lightest touch into a multitude of others, and is the most divisible of all bodies: mercury very readily mixes with gold, silver, lead and tin, by chymical operations, but not without difficulty with copper and iron; and it mixes easily with zink and bismuth among the fermetals: the specific gravity of pure mercury is to water as 14020 to 1000, and as it is the heaviest of all fluids, it is also the coldest, and when heated the hottest: of the various ores, in which mercury is found, cinnabar is the richest and most valuable, which is extremely heavy, and of a bright and beautiful red colour: native cinnabar is principally found in the mines of Friuli, belonging to the Venetians, in Italy, and some others in Spain, Hungary, and the East Indies: quicksilver is also found sometimes in its pure and fluid state lodged in cavities of hard stones in the cinnabar mines, and the purer ores are chiefly composed of cinnabar in small quantities, mixed with various other substances: the ancients all esteemed quicksilver a poison, nor was it brought into internal use till about two hundred and twenty years ago, which was first occasioned by the shepherds, who ventured to give it their sheep to kill worms, and as they received no hurt by it, it was soon concluded, that men might take it safely: in time, the diggers in the mines, when they found it crude, swallowed it in vast quantities, in order to sell it privately, when they had voided it by stool: but too free a use of so powerful a medicine cannot be always without danger: the miners seldom follow their occupation above three or four years, and then die in a most miserable condition; and the artificers, who have much dealing in it, are generally seized with paralytick disorders: however, under proper regulation, it is a most excellent medicine. *Hill's Materia Medica.*

Mercury is very improperly called a metal, for though it has weight and similarity of parts, it is neither dissolvable by fire, malleable nor fixed: it seems to constitute a particular class of fossils, and is rather the mother or basis of all metals, than a metal itself: mercury is of considerable use in gilding, making looking-glasses, in refining gold, and various other mechanical operations besides medicine. *Chambers.*

Cinnabar maketh a beautiful purple like unto a red rose; the best was wont to be made in Libia of brimstone and quicksilver burnt. *Peacocks on Drawing.*

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**QUICKSILVERED.** *adj.* [*from quicksilver.*] Overlaid with quicksilver.

Metal is more difficult to polish than glass, and is afterwards very apt to be spoiled by tarnishing, and reflects not so much light as glass quicksilvered over does: I would propound to use instead of the metal a glass ground concave on the fore-side, and as much convex on the backside, and quicksilvered over on the convex side. *Newton's Opticks.*

**QUIDAM.** [*Latin.*] Somebody.

For envy of so many worthy quidams, which catch at the garland, which to you alone is due, you will be persuaded to pluck out of the hateful darkness those to many excellent poems of yours, which lie hid, and bring them forth to eternal light. *Spenser.*

**QUIDDANY.** *n. f.* [*cydonium, cydoniatum, Lat. quiddan, German, a quince.*] Marmalade; confection of quinces made with sugar.

**QUIDDIT.** *n. f.* [*corrupted from quiddit, Lat. or from que dit, Fr.*] A subtlety; an equivocation. A low word.

Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? where be his quiddits now? his quilllets? his cases? and his tricks? *Shak.*

**QUIDDITY.** *n. f.* [*quidditas, low Latin.*]

1. Efficacy; that which is a proper answer to the question, *quid est?* a scholastick term.

He could reduce all things to acts,  
And knew their natures and abstracts,  
Where entity and quiddity,  
The ghosts of defunct bodies fly. *Hudibras, p. i.*

2. A trifling nicety; a cavil; a captious question.

Misomer in our laws, and other quiddities, I leave to the professors of law. *Camden's Remains.*

**QUIESCENCE.** *n. f.* [*from quiesco, Lat.*] Rest; repose.

Whether the earth move or rest, I undertake not to determine: my work is to prove, that the common inducement to the belief of its quiescence, the testimony of sense, is weak and frivolous. *Glanvill's Scept.*

**QUIESCENT.** *adj.* [*quiescens, Latin.*] Resting; not being in motion; not moving; lying at repose.

Though the earth move, its motion must needs be as insensible as if it were quiescent. *Glanvill's Scept.*

The right side, from whence the motion of the body beginneth, is the active or moving side; but the sinister is the weaker or more quiescent side. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

Sight takes in at a greater distance and more variety at once, comprehending also quiescent objects, which hearing does not. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*

If it be in some part movent, and in some part quiescent, it must needs be a curve line, and so no radius. *Grew.*

Precision or motion cannot be propagated in a fluid in right lines beyond an obstacle which stops part of the motion, but will bend and spread every way into the quiescent medium, which lies beyond the obstacle. *Newton's Opticks.*

**QUIET.** *adj.* [*quiet, Fr. quietus, Latin.*]

1. Still; free from disturbance.

Breaking off the end for want of breath,  
And flying soft, as down to sleep her laid,  
She ended all her woe in quiet death. *Fa. Queen.*

This life is best,  
If quiet life is best; sweeter to you,  
That have a sharper known. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*

2. Peaceable; not turbulent; not offensive; mild.

Let it be in the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. *1 Pet.*

3. Still; not in motion.

They laid wait for him, and were quiet all the night. *Judges xvi. 2.*

4. Smooth; not ruffled.

Happy is your grace,  
That can translate the stubbornness of fortune  
Into so quiet and so sweet a style. *Shakefp.*

**QUIET.** *n. f.* [*quiet, Lat.*] Rest; repose; tranquillity; freedom from disturbance; peace; security.

They came into Laish unto a people that were at quiet and secure. *Judges xviii. 27.*

There fix'd their arms, and there renew'd their name,  
And there in quiet rules. *Dryden's Aeneis.*

Indulgent quiet, pow'r serene,  
Mother of joy and love. *Hughes.*

**To QUIET.** *v. a.* [*from the noun.*]

1. To calm; to lull; to pacify; to put to rest.

The lowest degree of faith, that can quiet the soul of man, is a firm conviction that God is placable. *Forbes.*

2. To still.

Putting together the ideas of moving or quieting corporal motion, joined to substance, we have the idea of an immaterial spirit. *Locke.*

**QUIETER.** *n. f.* [*from quiet.*] The person or thing that quiets.

**QUIETISM.** *n. f.* [*from quiet.*]

What is called by the poets apathy or dispassion, by the scepticks indisturbance, by the Molinists quietism, by common men peace of conscience, seems all to mean but great tranquillity of mind. *Temple.*

# QUI

**QUIETLY.** *adv.* [*from quiet.*]

1. Calmly; without violent emotion.

Let no man for his own poverty become more oppressing in his bargain, but quietly, modestly and patiently recommend his estate to God, and leave the success to him. *Taylor.*

2. Peaceably; without offence.

Although the rebels had behaved themselves quietly and modestly by the way as they went; yet they doubted that would but make them more hungry to fall upon the spoil in the end. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

3. At rest; without agitation.

**QUIETNESS.** *n. f.* [*from quiet.*]

1. Coolness of temper.

This cruel quietness neither returning to dislike nor proceeding to favour; gracious, but gracious still after one manner. *Sidney, b. ii.*

That which we move for our better instruction sake, turneth into anger and choler in them; they grow altogether out of quietness with it; they answer fumingly. *Hooker.*

2. Peace; tranquillity.

Stop effusion of our christian blood,  
And 'tablish quietness on ev'ry side. *Shakefp. Henry VI.*

What miseries have both nations avoided, and what quietness and security attained by their peaceable union? *Hayward.*

3. Stillness; calmness.

**QUIETSDOME.** *adj.* [*from quiet.*] Calm; still; undisturbed.

Not in use.

Let the night be calm and quiet some,  
Without tempestuous storms or sad affray. *Spenser.*

**QUIETUDE.** *n. f.* [*quietudo, Fr. from quiet.*] Rest; repose; tranquillity. Not in common use.

From the equal distribution of the phlegmatick humour, the proper alloy of fervent blood, will flow a future quietude and serenity in the affections. *Wotton on Education.*

**QUILL.** *n. f.*

1. The hard and strong feather of the wing, of which pens are made.

Birds have three other hard substances proper to them; the bill, which is of a like matter with the teeth, the shell of the egg, and their quills. *Bacon's Nat. History.*

2. The instrument of writing.

I will only touch the duke's own deportment in that island, the proper subject of my quill. *Wotton's Buckingham.*

Those lives they fail'd to rescue by their skill,  
Their muse would make immortal with her quill. *Garth.*

From him whose quills stand quiver'd at his ear,  
To him that notches sticks at Westminster. *Pope.*

3. Prick or dart of a porcupine.

Near these was the black prince of Monomotapa, by whose side was seen the quill darting porcupine. *Arbuth. and Pope.*

4. Reed on which weavers wind their threads.

The presumptuous damsel rashly dar'd  
The goddess' self to challenge to the field,  
And to compare with her in curious skill,  
Of works with loom, with needle, and with quill. *Spenser.*

The instrument with which musicians strike their strings.

His flying fingers and harmonious quill  
Strike sev'n distinguishing notes, and sev'n at once they fill. *Dryden's Aeneis.*

**QUILLET.** *n. f.* [*quidlibet, Lat.*] Subtlety; nicety; fraudulent distinction.

Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? where be his quiddits now? his quilllets? his cases? and his tricks? *Shak.*

A great foul weighs in the scale of reason, what it is to judge of, rather than dwell with too scrupulous a diligence upon little quilllets and niceties. *Digby.*

Ply her with love letters and billets,  
And bait them well for quirks and quilllets. *Hudibras.*

**QUILT.** *n. f.* [*connetto, Fr. kuilt, Dutch; culcita, culcitra, Lat.*] A cover made by stitching one cloth over another with some soft substance between them.

Quilts of roses and spices are nothing so helpful, as to take a cake of new bread, and bedew it with a little sack. *Bacon.*

In both tables, the beds were covered with magnificent quilts amongst the richer sort. *Arbuthnot on Coins.*

She on the quilt sinks with becoming woe,  
Wrapt in a gown, for sickness and for woe. *Pope.*

**To QUILT.** *v. a.* [*from the noun.*] To stitch one cloth upon another with something soft between them.

The sharp steel arriving forcibly  
On his horse neck before the quilted fell,  
Then from the head the body fundred quite. *Fairy Queen.*

A bag quilted with bran is very good, but it drieth too much. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Entellus for the strife prepares,  
Strip'd of his quilted coat, his body bares,  
Compos'd of mighty bone. *Dryden's Aeneis.*

A chair was ready,  
So quilted, that he lay at ease reclin'd. *Dryden.*

Mayn't I quilt my rope? it galls my neck. *Arbuthnot.*

**QUINARY.** *adj.* [*quinarus, Lat.*] Consisting of five.

This quinary number of elements ought to have been restrained to the generality of animals and vegetables. *Boyle.*

# QUI

**QUINCE.** *n. f.* [*coin, Fr. quidden, German.*]

1. The tree.

The quince tree is of a low stature; the branches are diffused and crooked; the flower and fruit is like that of the pear tree; but, however cultivated, the fruit is sour and astringent, and is covered with a kind of down: of this the species are fix. *Miller.*

2. The fruit.

They call for dates and quinces in the pastry. *Shakefp.*

A quince, in token of fruitfulness, by the laws of Solon, was given to the brides of Athens upon the day of their marriage. *Peacocks on Drawing.*

**To QUINCH.** *v. n.* [*this word seems to be the same with quench, winch and quack.*] To stir; to flounce as in resentment or pain.

Bestow all my soldiers in such sort as I have, that no part of all that realm shall be able to dare to quinch. *Spenser.*

**QUINCUNCIAL.** *adj.* [*from quincunx.*] Having the form of a quincunx.

Of a pentagonal or quincuncial disposition, Sir Thomas Brown produces several examples in his discourse about the quincunx. *Ray on the Creation.*

**QUINCUNX.** *n. f.* [*Latin.*]

Quincunx order is a plantation of trees, disposed originally in a square, consisting of five trees, one at each corner, and a fifth in the middle, which disposition, repeated again and again, forms a regular grove, wood or wilderness; and, when viewed by an angle of the square or parallelogram, presents equal or parallel alleys.

Brown produces several examples in his discourse about the quincunx. *Ray on the Creation.*

He whole light'ning pierc'd th' Iberian lines,  
Now forms my quincunx, and now ranks my vines. *Pope.*

**QUINQUAGESIMA.** [*Latin.*] Quinquagesima Sunday, so called because it is the fiftieth day before Easter, reckoned by whole numbers; shrove Sunday. *Diet.*

**QUINQUANGULAR.** *adj.* [*quinque and angulus, Lat.*] Having five corners.

Each talus, environed with a crust, conforming itself to the sides of the talus, is of a figure quinquangular. *Woodw.*

Exactly round, ordinately quinquangular, or having the sides parallel. *Moré's Antidote against Atheism.*

**QUINQUARTICULAR.** *adj.* [*quinque and articulus, Lat.*] Consisting of five articles.

They have given an end to the quinquarticular controversy, for none have since undertaken to lay more. *Anderson.*

**QUINQUEFID.** *adj.* [*quinque and fido, Lat.*] Cloven in five.

**QUINQUEFOLIATED.** *adj.* [*quinque and folium, Lat.*] Having five leaves.

**QUINQUENNIAL.** *adj.* [*quinquennis, Lat.*] Lasting five years; happening once in five years.

**QUINX.** *n. f.* [*corrupted from quincunx.*] A tumid inflammation in the throat, which sometimes produces suffocation.

The throttling quinx 'tis my star appoints,  
And rheumatism I send to rack the joints. *Dryden.*

Great heat and cold, succeeding one another, occasion pleuritis and quinx. *Arbuthnot on Air.*

**QUINT.** *n. f.* [*quint, Fr.*] A set of five.

For state has made a quint  
Of generals he's lifted in't. *Hudibras, p. iii.*

**QUINTAIN.** *n. f.* [*quintain, Fr.*] A post with a turning top. See **QUINTIN.**

My better parts  
Are all thrown down; and that, which here stands up,  
Is but a quintain, a mere lifeless block. *Shakefp.*

**QUINTESENCE.** *n. f.* [*quinta essentia, Lat.*]

1. A fifth being.

From their gross matter the abstracts the forms,  
And draws a kind of quintessence from things. *Davies.*

The ethereal quintessence of heav'n  
Flew upward, spirited with various forms,  
That rowl'd orbicular, and turn'd to stars. *Milton.*

They made fire, air, earth, and water, to be the four elements, of which all earthly things were compounded, and supposed the heavens to be a quintessence or fifth sort of body distinct from all these. *Watts's Logick.*

2. An extract from any thing, containing all its virtues in a small quantity.

To me what is this quintessence of dust? man delights not me, nor woman neither. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*

Who can in memory, or wit, or will,  
Or air, or fire, or earth, or water find?  
What alchymist can draw, with all his skill,  
The quintessence of these out of the mind. *Davies.*

For I am a very dead thing,  
In whom love wrought new alchymy,  
For by his art he did express  
A quintessence even from nothingness,  
From dull privations and lean emptiness.  
Paracelsus, by the help of an intense cold, teaches to separate the quintessence of wine. *Boyle.*

Let there be light! said God; and forthwith light  
Ethereal, first of things, quintessence pure,  
Sprung from the deep. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. vii.*

When